

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANA 03036 070629Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /079 W

-----021849 070632Z /10

R 061435Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2003

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T SANA 3036

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, PINR, UR, YE

SUBJECT: EXPULSION OF SOVIET OFFICIAL

BEGIN SUMMARY: YEMENIS EXPELL SOVIET OFFICIAL FOR FIRST
TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. YAR FOREIGN MINISTER AL-ASNAJ CALLED ME IN ON THURSDAY,
AUGUST 4 TO SAY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT YARG WAS EXPELLING
TASS CORRESPONDENT FOR ALLEGED ESPIONAGE CONTACTS, SOME OF
THEM IN REPUBLICAN GUARD WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY. AL-ASNAJ SAID THERE WERE OTHER
CLANDESTINE CONTACTS BY THIS MAN AND A DECISION
HAD BEEN MADE TO REFUSE TO ACCEPT ANY REPLACEMENT FROM
TASS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SANA 03036 070629Z

2. AL-ASNAJ SAID THAT THE SOVIET CHARGE HAD BEEN
CALLED IN THE DAY BEFORE TO RECEIVE THE EXPULSION ORDER
WHICH WAS HANDED HIM IN THE FORM OF A WRITTEN NOTE
DECLARING THE CORRESPONDENT PERSONA NON GRATA. ACCORDING
TO AL-ASNAJ WHEN THE SOVIET CHARGE SAID THERE WAS AN
AEROFLOT PLANE MONDAY, HE WAS TOLD THAT THERE WAS ANOTHER

AEROFLOT FLIGHT OUT ON FRIDAY AND THE CORRESPONDENT SHOULD BE ON THE EARLIER FLIGHT.

3. AL-ASNAJ SMILED AND SAID HE THOUGHT WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HEAR THIS, BUT I ONLY ASKED HIM ABOUT THE NOVOSTI CORRESPONDENT WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED ON MANY OCCASIONS AS CARRYING OUT SIMILAR CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS IN SANA. AL-ASNAJ SAID THE NOVOSTI REPRESENTATIVE WAS "ANOTHER CASE" AND ASKED AGAIN WHAT OUR REACTION WAS TO THE EXCLUSION OF THE TASS CORRESPONDENT. I SAID WE COULDN'T THANK THE YARG FOR TAKING MEASURES TO PROTECT ITS OWN SECURITY AND LAWS BUT I REGARDED IT AS SIGNIFICANT THAT NO SOVIET OFFICIAL TO MY KNOWLEDGE HAD EVER PREVIOUSLY BEEN DECLARED PNG. AL-ASNAJ NODDED AND SAID HE SAW HIS JOB AS REDUCING SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AREA AND COUNTRY.

4. COMMENT: SOVIET CLANDESTINE COLLECTION EFFORTS IN SANA ARE WIDESPREAD AND NOT VERY CLANDESTINE. TASS CORRESPONDENT LIKE NOVOSTI AGENT HAD NUMEROUS AFFILIATIONS WHICH YARG CHOSE TO IGNORE FOR A LONG TIME, PROBABLY TO AVOID TROUBLE WITH SOVIETS. BELIEVE EXPULSION ORDER IS OUTGROWTH OF PRESSURES WHICH SAUDIS PUT ON YEMENIS DURING LAST MEETING IN KINGDOM BETWEEN MR RESIDENT AL-HAMDI AND RANKING SAUDIS. QUESTION IS WHETHER YEMENIS WILLINGNESS TO ACCOMMODATE SAUDIS WILL EXTEND TO EXPULSION OR REDUCTION
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SANA 03036 070629Z

IN SOVIET MILITARY MISSION IN YEMEN.
RANSOM

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, ESPIONAGE, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANA03036
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770283-1096
Format: TEL
From: SANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770890/aaaacxps.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ac4ae360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1689267
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPULSION OF SOVIET OFFICIAL BEGIN SUMMARY: YEMENIS EXPELL SOVIET OFFICIAL FOR FIRST TIME. END SUMMARY.
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, PINR, UR, YE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ac4ae360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009